PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Continuation-in-Part Application of:	
Patrick WARNER, et al.	Examiner: S. CROW
Serial No. _____	Art Unit: 3764
Filed: Herewith	
For: FREE WHEEL CLUTCH MECHANISM FOR BICYCLE DRIVE TRAIN	

Filed via Express Mail

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PATENT APPLICATION
Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

Please enter this preliminary amendment in the Continuation-in-part application, filed herewith, of Serial. No. 09/379,560. Please enter the following amendments:

Please amend the specification as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-31.

Please add the following new claims 32-40:

32. An exercise bicycle comprising:

a frame including a seat and handlebars;

a flywheel including an axle housing, the flywheel being rotatably supported on the frame;

a drive train, including a drive train sprocket, a crank arm attached to and extending from the drive sprocket, and a pedal attached to the crank arm, the drive train being rotatably supported by the frame, and a slave sprocket coupled to the flywheel, with

the drive train and slave sprockets connected in a direct-drive relationship, the drive train drivable in a forward and rearward direction to cause the flywheel to rotate;

a spring tensioner coupled to the axle housing; and

a clutch positioned in engagement with the slave sprocket and the flywheel, the clutch including a biasing member positioned between the clutch and the spring tensioner, the clutch creating a break free force.

33. The exercise bicycle of claim 32, the biasing member being a Belleville washer.

34. The exercise bicycle of claim 32, the axle housing defining a cylinder wherein the outside circumference of the cylinder adjacent the clutch is threaded.

35. The exercise bicycle of claim 34, the spring tensioner defining a threaded aperture adapted to engage the threaded outside circumference of the axle housing.

36. The exercise bicycle of claim 35, wherein the spring tensioner is rotatable about the axle housing so as to increase or decrease the break free force.

37. The exercise bicycle of claim 32, the clutch including an inner clutch plate adjacent an inside edge of the slave sprocket, and an outer clutch plate adjacent an outer edge of the slave sprocket.

38. The exercise bicycle of claim 37, the clutch including an inner clutch washer positioned between the inner clutch plate and the slave sprocket, and an outer clutch washer positioned between the inner clutch plate and the slave sprocket.

39. The exercise bicycle of claim 38 wherein the inner clutch washer and the outer clutch washer are polyethylene.

40. The exercise bicycle of claim 33 wherein the spring tensioner defines an outwardly extending flange circumferential to the axle housing, the outwardly extending flange adapted to center the Belleville washer about the axle housing.

REMARKS

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/379,650, filed August 23, 1999, and entitled "FREE WHEEL CLUTCH MECHANISM FOR BICYCLE DRIVE TRAIN". Claims 1-31 have been canceled, with new claims 32-40 being added.

The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned via telephone to address any issues regarding the application and allowance of the pending claims.

Signed at Denver, Colorado, this 9th day of March 2001.

Respectfully submitted,

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